United Nations A/65/833-S/2011/285

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
5 May 2011

Original: English

General Assembly
Sixty-fifth session
Agenda items 34, 39, 66 and 75

Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

The situation in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan

Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

Responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts

Security Council
Sixty-sixth year

Letter dated 29 April 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Over the course of the current session of the General Assembly, the representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations has circulated a number of propaganda papers full of misinformation and falsifications, including the baseless allegation of a killing by an Armenian sniper of a 9-year-old Azerbaijani child as a result of the ceasefire violations.

That allegation is based on groundless information received from the Office of the Prosecutor General of Azerbaijan, as noted in document A/65/821-S/2011/251. What has become a standard product of Azerbaijani propaganda, the latest letter once again tries to discredit Armenia and Nagorno Karabakh. The death of the child was confirmed neither by the OSCE Co-Chairs nor by the personal representative of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office.

It is unethical to circulate such a defamatory document at the United Nations, which serves no other purpose than to shatter the hope of a peaceful coexistence between peoples. Rather than drafting such a shameful document exploiting the life of a child as a propaganda tool, Azerbaijan should focus on cooperating with the Co-Chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group and its missions and do its part in conducting the investigation, as set out in the statement made by the Armenian, Russian and Azerbaijani Presidents at their meeting in Sochi in March 2011. In that context, Azerbaijan should stop obstructing the work of the OSCE Mission. While the Nagorno Karabakh authorities followed their early commitment and allowed the

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OSCE monitoring missions to conduct and assess the situation as agreed, Azerbaijan continues to refuse to grant access to the OSCE Mission despite its prior agreement.

Azerbaijan should abandon its adventurous practice of provocations along the Line of Contact, which is a serious threat to peace and stability in the region. Such actions are also violations of the 1994 Ceasefire Agreement between Azerbaijan, Nagorno Karabakh and Armenia and are contrary to the stated commitment to refrain from the use of force or the threat of the use of force.

It is also important that Azerbaijan revisit its decision to reject the call from the United Nations Secretary-General and the Minsk Group Co-Chairs to remove the snipers from the Line of Contact. This unacceptable behaviour of the Azerbaijani leadership has already resulted in the death of six servicemen of the Defence Army of the Nagorno Karabakh Republic since the above-mentioned meeting of Presidents.

I would like to take this opportunity to stress once again that Armenia advocates the need for a peaceful resolution of the Nagorno Karabakh issue through the implementation of confidence-building measures necessary to consolidate and strengthen the ceasefire regime.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 34, 39, 66 and 75, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Garen **Nazarian**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative